REMARKS

Claims 1-28 were examined and reported in the Office Action. Claims 1-4 are rejected. Claim 9 is cancelled. Claims 1-8, 10-28 are amended. New claims 29-31 are added. Claims 1-31 remain. New claim 30 is directed to a method for zeroing a time domain speech transmission signal which signal has a frequency domain transform $Z(k)$. Claim 30 is supported by the original specification (see Applicant's specification, page 25, lines 28-32). No new matter is added.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

I.   35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections for claims 1 and 3 are respectfully requested.

II.   35 U.S.C. 101

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the disclosed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended the claims to more clearly point out the invention. Applicant has amended the preamble in claims 1-20 and 29. Claims 1-20 and 29 are directed to a method for zeroing a portion of a time domain impulse response of a filter in a speech for zeroing a portion of a time domain impulse response of a filter in a speech transmission apparatus which filter has a frequency domain transfer function $Z(k)$. New claim 1 is fully supported in the specification (see Applicant's specification, page 25, lines 19-27). No new matter is added.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection for claims 1-4 are respectfully requested.

III.   Claims Not Rejected Over Prior Art

Applicant notes that claims 1-8 and 10-28 are amended to overcome the informal objections, 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejections and 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections, and are not rejected over prior art.

Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1-8 and 10-31, as it now stands, are allowable for the reasons given above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-8 and 10-31, patentably define the subject invention over the cited references of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be useful in moving the case forward, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.
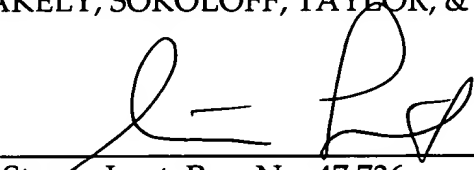
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2004, Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a three (3) month extension of time, extending the period for response to THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2004. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 in the amount of $950.00 to cover the petition filing fee for a 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3) large entity. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

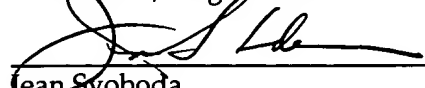Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: <u>August 4, 2004</u>

By: _____
Steven Laut, Reg. No. 47,736

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on August 4, 2004.

_____
Jean Svoboda

ABSTRACT

A device for processing digital data. A module (M2, M3) produces on a data vector of the frequency domain Z(k), wherein K varies from 0 to N-1, a convolution with a function U, convolution which corresponds to a cancellation in the time domain of the samples of the inverse transform of Z(k). The function U is in the form: $U(k) = \sin c(k-k_0/2.e)-j\pi(\alpha(k-k_0/2\dot{\iota}.P(k))$, wherein K_0 is a constant integer and P(k) a weighting window symmetrical about k_0.